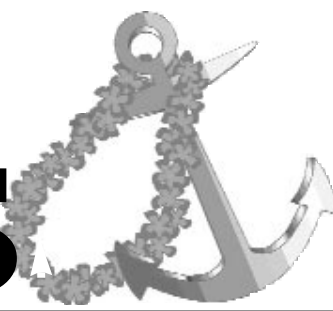


# Hawaii Navy News



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## IN BRIEF

**Advancement exams scheduled for E-4 through E-6**  
The Sept. 2000 Exams will be held on the following dates:

- E-4 Sept. 7 (Club Pearl)
- E-5 Sept. 14 (Club Pearl and SUBASE Galley)
- E-6 Sept. 21 (Club Pearl and SUBASE Galley).

For candidates testing at Kanehoe, call 653-0206. Candidates testing at NS-GA, Kunia call 655-3311 and candidates testing at NCTAMSPAC call 653-0206.

Military uniform of the day is required and a valid I.D. card must be presented before entering the exam site. All candidates must muster no later than 6:30 a.m.

Substitute Examination: All requests for substitute/late exams shall be submitted no later than five working days after administration of regular exam paygrade. For planning purposes, substitute exams will be administered on Oct. 31. Location will be determined at a later date.

For more details see your command ESO/PLR.

## Enlisted Advancement System changes

Per NAVADMIN 221/00, the Human Resources Board of Directors has approved a change to the enlisted advancement system. Effective immediately, commanding officers (CO) and officers in charge (OIC) can waive up to one year time in rate (TIR) for sailors in pay grades E-5 and E-6, who received a promotion recommendation of "early promote" EP on their most recent periodic evaluation in that paygrade. For the September 2000 exam cycle, recent periodic evaluation will be March 15, 2000.

If an E-5 candidate is under this category, he or she may submit a letter signed by the CO or OIC only (no by direction) authorizing a one year waiver and attach a copy of his/her March 15, 2000 periodic evaluation as an enclosure to the letter. The time in rate (TIR) will be established as Jan. 1, 1999 for this purpose. For more information call PSD at 471-2405 or ESO at 471-2365.

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Single Sailor recreation center opens on SUBASE...B-1

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# Three Pearl Harbor ships deploy

By JO3 Erin Carlson  
NAVY REGION HAWAII

More than 800 Hawaii Sailors aboard USS Fletcher (DD 992), USS Paul Hamilton (DDG 60) and USS Crommelin (FFG 37) said goodbye to friends and families Aug. 26 as they departed on a routine six-month deployment to the western Pacific and Arabian Gulf as part of the USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72) Carrier Battle Group.

Fletcher and Crommelin will be joined by two SH-60B Seahawk helicopters each, and 44 personnel from Helicopter Antisubmarine Squadron (Light) 37 (HSL 37), Detachments THREE and SEVEN, based at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay.

In addition, Commodore Peter H. Daly, Commander, Destroyer Squadron Thirty-One, and his Pearl Harbor-based staff of 28, departed earlier this month and are already embarked aboard Abraham Lincoln.

Commanded by Cmdr. Christopher D. Nobel, USS Fletcher, a "Spruance-class" destroyer is a versatile, multi-mission ship, fully capable of operating independently and as a unit of carrier battle groups. The ship was designed primarily for anti-

▼ See SHIPS, A-10



PH2 Chad McNeely photo

Family members stand pier-side as USS Paul Hamilton (DDG 60) departs for a six-month deployment. Paul Hamilton was joined by USS Fletcher (DD 992) and USS Crommelin (FFG 37) totaling more than 800 Hawaii Sailors. The three ships will join the USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72) battle group on the deployment.

# Two local SUPPOs win 1999 Batchelder award

By JO1 Gerard Sekerak  
HNN EDITOR

Supply officers (SUPPOs) from two ships based out of Naval Station Pearl Harbor were presented the Vice Adm. Robert F. Batchelder, Supply Corps (SC), Navy League Award for 1999.

Lt. Michelle D. Morse, formerly of USS Hopper (DDG 70) and Lt. James R. S. Gayton, USS Crommelin (FFG 37) each received the award Aug. 22 at a ceremony held at the Navy Supply Corps school in Athens, Ga.

"These officers, nominated by those they served, lived Fleet operations everyday," said Rear Adm. K. W. Lippert, Chief of the Navy Supply Corps in a May 10 naval message to the awardees' commands. "Every one of the 89 active duty and 11 reserve officers who were nominated can be justifiably proud of their extraordinary contributions to the supply readiness of our operating forces," said Lippert.

Lt. Richard K. McCarthy, USS Ohio Blue (SSBN 726);

Lt. Paul A. Amodio, Readiness Officer, USS John F. Kennedy (CV 67) and reservist Lt. Charles W. Parker III, Assistant Supply Officer, Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 25 also received the Batchelder award at the ceremony.

The Batchelder award is given out annually by the Navy League to supply officers who make the most significant contributions to supply readiness of the Navy's operating forces.

According to Lt. Cmdr. Robert Allen, SUPPO for Commander, Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, the Batchelder is the premier supply officer individual recognition award.

"This is an extremely prestigious award for Supply Corps Officers," he said. "Each of the winners has made a profound difference in the operational success of their commands. Even more remarkable is the fact that two of the awardees are from DESRON 31 ships here at MIDPAC, a true indication of the professionalism and ability of the SUPPOs on the waterfront here at Pearl

Harbor."

Commanding officers for each of the Batchelder awardees spoke highly of their SUPPOs in their nominee's justification package. The following are statements taken directly from each local SUPPO's nomination package submitted via their respective commanding officers:

Lt. Michelle D. Morse (USS Hopper) - "A tremendous impact player here, especially in warfighting readiness and quality of life, her efforts in support of her ship's operational readiness have a direct impact on fleet readiness and been operationally tested around the world. Hopper was the only ship in the Navy to deploy 11 months after commissioning and again 13 months after returning home.

"Morse has expertly prepared us for both deployments. Additionally, her logistics strategy saw us successfully through the new inter-deployment training cycle condensed into 2/3rds of the fleet's normal prep time. Her ship's operational readiness and successful performance is a direct re-

sult of Lt. Morse's efforts."

Lt. James R. S. Gayton (USS Crommelin) - "Under Lt. Gayton's leadership, Sailors consistently had the parts and tools they needed. Crew productivity skyrocketed. Morale, job satisfaction, and quality of life soared. And my ship's operational performance rose to new heights - a tough task aboard an old ship! Lt. Gayton's performance as supply officer is why. The enormous improvements in my ship's command climate during the past year are inexorably linked to the results he brought about."

Lt. Gayton remains as SUPPO on Crommelin, which recently got underway on a six-month WESTPAC deployment with USS Paul Hamilton (DDG 60) and USS Fletcher (DD 992). Lt. Morse completed her department head tour as SUPPO on Hopper in July, and is pursuing her master of business administration (MBA) degree at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh under the Navy's "810" program.

# Rear Admiral Conway to take command of COMNAV-REG/MID-PAC

By Navy Region Public Affairs

Rear Adm. Robert T. Conway, Jr. was born in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., on 1 July 1950. He graduated from St. Francis College Loretto, Pa. in 1972, with a bachelor of arts degree and was commissioned an Ensign through Officer Candidate School the same year.

Rear Adm. Conway's sea duty assignments commenced on board USS Vesole (DD 878), where he served as Main Propulsion Assistant and Anti-Submarine Warfare Officer. Subsequent sea duty tours included: USS Towers (DDG 9), Chief Engineer; USS Bainbridge (CGN 25), Combat Systems Officer; and Executive Officer of USS Gridley (CG 21). RADM Conway served as Chief Staff Officer for Commander, Destroyer Squadron Seventeen and on the staff of Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet Propulsion Examination Board, where he served as a senior examiner for steam propulsion.

Rear Adm. Conway commanded USS John Young (DD 973) from April 1992 to January 1994. During his command tour, USS John Young was awarded the Navy Unit Commendation for

▼ See CONWAY, A-10

# Chinese Naval ships to visit Pearl Harbor

By Agnes Tauyan  
NAVY REGION HAWAII

As part of a goodwill cruise to the United States, two People's Republic of China (PRC) navy ships will arrive here on Labor Day for a four-day visit.

The destroyer Qingdao (DDG-113), and the oiler Taicang (AOR 575), are scheduled to arrive at about 8:30 a.m., Sept. 4. They will be welcomed by U.S. Navy officials at a pierside ceremony. Other activities to be held during the port visit include sporting events, ship tours, sightseeing, and official receptions.

The senior People's Liberation Army (Navy) representative will be Rear Adm. Lu Fangqiu, chief of staff of the North Sea fleet.

Sailors aboard Hawaii's newest guided missile destroyer and host ship to the Chinese, USS O'Kane (DDG 77), will also get a rare chance to visit with their Chinese counterparts. American and Chinese Sailors will tour each other's ships and get an opportunity to share experiences.

This marks the third visit to the U.S. by operational PRC ships. In March

## Chinese navy ship tour info:

The Chinese navy ships are tentatively scheduled to be open for public tours on Sept. 4 and Sept. 5, from 1- 5 p.m. daily, at Bravo Piers 25 and 26. For more information, contact the Navy Region Hawaii Combined Information Bureau's ship tour information line at 471-0282.

1997, destroyers Harbin (DDG 112) and Zhuhai (DDG 166) and the oiler Nancang (AO 953) made port calls in Pearl Harbor and San Diego. The first visit was made in April 1989, when the training vessel Zheng visited Pearl Harbor. Conversely, USS Chancellorsville (CG 62) visited Qingdao, China, earlier this month.

Upon completion of the Pearl Harbor visit, the two ships will depart for Everett, Wash., where they will visit Sept. 15-18.

The Chinese originally planned to be in Hawaii Sept. 5-8, however, they decided to reschedule their Hawaii visit to allow for enough time to transit to their follow-on visit to Washington.

The American and Chinese fleets are the two largest navies in the Pacific. Interaction such as reciprocal port visits increases mutual understanding and confidence and is part of the U.S. Pacific Command's Strategy of Cooperative Engagement, a program designed to build, strengthen and foster positive relations with western Pacific nations. This is achieved with forward presence of U.S. forces, goodwill port visits, exercises, military-to-military contact and community relations.

For questions specifically about the activities in Hawaii, contact the Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs Combined Information Bureau at (808) 471-0282. Information about the Washington port visit can be obtained by contacting the Navy Region Pacific Northwest Public Affairs Office at (206) 526-3146. Supporting information about the port visits is available on the internet at the Navy Region Hawaii website at www.hawaii.navy.mil.